

THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

City Planning and Community Investment

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Grant Funding Applications Available for Small Business-Serving Nonprofits

Applications for City Funding Due July 20, 2006

SAN DIEGO – The City of San Diego's City Planning and Community Investment Department today announced it anticipates offering grant funding to local non-profit organizations with a proven track record of providing unique and successful programs to assist small businesses. Historically, the City has earmarked approximately \$100,000 for this annual program.

The funding is provided by the City's Small Business Enhancement Program. This program has significantly enhanced the City's partnership with non-profit business assistance organizations. The partnership provides a broad range of direct support programs for San Diego's 70,000-plus small businesses, which are the driving force in San Diego's economy.

The grants are intended to help cultivate and further develop small businesses in recognition of their vital economic and cultural roles in sustaining and revitalizing commercial and residential areas. Helping small businesses grow and flourish helps foster the City's economic base to improve the quality of life for its citizens and business community.

Eligible organizations interested in applying for funding should print out the combined <u>application</u> and <u>guidelines</u>. Otherwise, applicants may contact the City of San Diego's City Planning and Community Investment Department – Office of Small Business by email at **sdbusiness@sandiego.gov** or by calling (619) 533-5305 to request an application and program guidelines. Program applications must be received at the City's Office of Small Business by **5pm** on **July 20, 2006.** The office is located at the City of San Diego, City Planning and Community Investment Department, 600 B Street, 4th Floor, San Diego, CA 92101. Late applications will not be accepted.

A panel comprised of members of the City's Small Business Advisory Board will review the applications. The grants will be based on not-for-profit status, quality and number of applications received, as well as availability of funding.

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With an emphasis on the City's urban core neighborhoods and low and moderate income residents, the City Planning and Community Investment Department strives to improve the quality of life and ensure a healthy economy in San Diego through job development, business development, neighborhood revitalization, public improvements, redevelopment, social services, and revenue enhancement.